

April 16th, 2009 Jyun Yokoi

TF CNS scholarship Program Speech for the reception

Thank you very much for inviting me for this reception. First of all, to Tyler, and thank you to the president, Kimberly, vice-president, Mark, and Saiki sensei, Oikawa sensei, Watanabe sensei who did the review, and also the staff of the Tyler Foundation.

I am not used to making a speech like this. I thought over what to say, and I would like to introduce myself and let you know who I am.

I am from Hamamatsu, Shizuoka. After graduating from high school, I entered Municipal University for Health Science, which is now called Tokyo Metropolitan University. Then I met Saiki sensei who was a professor there and learned about Pediatric Nursing.

Thank you very much, Saiki sensei. At that time, I met Saito-san who was also awarded a scholarship and spent 4 years of student life together. After graduating from university, I started working for Chiba Children's hospital, in the Department of Hematology/ Internal Medicine for 4 years, and 1 year in the ICU.

Then I entered graduate school at Chiba University and majored Pediatric Nursing. From this month, I became 2nd year, and am now preparing for the planning paper of nursing study.

Recently, the number of male nurses is gradually increasing, so I do not feel out of place anymore, but sometimes people ask me why I became nurse.

When I was in junior high school, I got cancer. This was my inspiration to become a nurse.

During the summer vacation of my 1st year of junior high school, a tumor was found in my thymus. I was hospitalized immediately, and had surgery to remove the tumor. I was discharged from the hospital after 2 months, then received radiation as an outpatient. But during the next year's summer vacation, it was discovered that the cancer had returned.

This time, surgery was not possible, so I received chemotherapy. I was not told

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that I had cancer, but rather everyone told me repeatedly that I would be cured soon since it was a benign tumor.

But I worried about why I was nauseous and tired without apparent reason. I couldn't wait for the IV to be finished and removed. I spent every day thinking if they would remove the IV, I could turn over in my sleep without worrying about the line and infusion.

I still remember clearly how shocked I was when I lost my hair since no one explained anything at all. Then I got cramps and cold sores and ulcers, and with all of that on top of the nausea and tiredness, I could not bear it anymore...I rushed to the nurse station, sobbing and said "I want to go home!"

At that time, the nurses accepted my feelings, and put some soothing anti-itch cream on my body and encouraged me saying "It will be over soon, so let's work together." I think this was the first time that I felt human kindness this warm. I could not stop crying. After that when I could not sleep, the nurses were always there to help me ease my mind. They talked with me even though they were busy with their work.

Of course the doctors were kind, but my impression at the time was that it was the nurses who were always there for me and who helped me a lot. I realized that care for those who become emotionally weak was important. I realized that I wanted to return the kindness I was given and I wanted to become a person who can understand the feeling of others. I feel this experience is my greatest strength.

To aim to become a CNS, there is lot I must do to gain knowledge, skills and experience, but I try to grow every day by one step at a time. I am sure not to forget what I experienced, not to forget my goal, to be humble and try to provide medical support in a better environment to give the best smiles to children in the hospital and their families.

Again, thank you very much for inviting me here tonight. I am thankful for meeting everyone involved with the Tyler Foundation. Please keep in touch.

That concludes my speech. Thank you very much.

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2nd year of nursing study Graduate school of Chiba University
Pediatric Nursing
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